

This is Melissa Bond, Statistical Assistant for the USDA NASS Iowa Field Office with the weekly crop progress and condition report for the week ending April 17, 2022.

Snow, high winds, and continued cold conditions limited Iowa farmers to 2.8 **days suitable for fieldwork** last week, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Farmers have been applying anhydrous and fertilizer, spreading manure, tilling fields, and planting oats where possible while preparing to plant row crops.

Topsoil moisture condition rated 7 percent very short, 22 percent short, 66 percent adequate and 5 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 11 percent very short, 33 percent short, 54 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

Twenty-nine percent of the expected **oat** crop has been planted, 8 days behind last year and 3 days behind the 5-year average. Oats are beginning to emerge across the State.

Pastures were still mostly dormant although there were reports of some starting to turn green. Livestock conditions were generally good, with many new calves arriving.

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